Gauge Conversion between Mysore and Chamarajanagar

1785. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to stale:

(a) whether it is a fact that proposal for gauge conversion between Mysore and Chamarajanagar in Karnataka was included in the 1997-98 budget;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Karnataka Government has requested for early implementation of the project and for allocation of funds in the financial year, 1999-2000;

(d) if so, the details of the proposal and the allocation made in the current financial year; and

(e) what is the targeted date for implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work was included at a cost of Rs. 175 crores to be taken up after obtaining the requisite clearances.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The proposal is being sent to CCEA for their clearance.

(e) Not yet fixed.

Special Trains for Pilgrims for Tirupati

1786. SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are unable to meet the seasonal rush of pilgrims in Andhra Pradesh especially in Tirupati; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to run special trains, especially in summer season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Railways are able to meet the seasonal rush of Pilgrims in Andhra Pradesh, including Tirupati.

(b) Does not arise.

Budget Allocation for Eastern Railway

1787. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eastern Railway Office is working at Bhubaneshwar, Orissa;

(b) what is the total Budget allocation for Eastern Railway office, Bhubaneshwar; and

(c) which are the areas under the Railway division working under Eastern Zone office, Bhubaneshwar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) There is no Eastern Zone Railway office working at Bhubaneshwar in Orissa. However, it is proposed to set up East Coast Railway (ECoR) zone at Bhubaneshwar.

(b) An allocation of Rs. 30.00 lakhs is proposed for the year 2000-01 for the East Coast Railway Zone.

(c) The territorial jurisdiction of East Coast Railway Zone (ECoR) has not yet been finalised.

Justice Khanna Report on Railway Safety

1788. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI MD. SALIM:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: